



2816

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Leonard Forbes et al.
Title: DRAM SENSE AMPLIFIER FOR LOW VOLTAGES

Docket No.: 303.586US1
Filed: May 26, 1999
Examiner: Anh-Quan Tra

Serial No.: 09/320,421
Due Date: February 20, 2003
Group Art Unit: 2816

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

- ☒ A return postcard.
- ☒ An Amendment and Response (8 Pages).

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional required fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 20th day of February, 2003.

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S/N 09/320421

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Title: DRAM SENSE AMPLIFIER FOR LOW VOLTAGES

PATENT

#25 Response
V. Brown
3/4/03

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on November 20, 2002. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

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REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on November 20, 2002, and the references cited therewith.

No claims are amended, and no claims are canceled; as a result, claims 10, 11, 13-18, 20-24, 26-38, and 40-45 are now pending in this application.

First §103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 10-11, 13-14, 16-18, 20-24, 26-27, 29-38, 44 and 45 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Austin (U.S. 5,982,690) in view of Chung (U.S. 5,442,209). Applicant traverses these grounds for rejection.

Applicant does not admit that the Austin patent is prior art to the present invention and reserves the right to swear behind this patent at a later date. Nevertheless, Applicant also submits that the Austin patent is distinguishable from the present invention.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action did not make out a proper *prima facie* case of obviousness for at least the following reasons:

- (1) the cited references are nonanalogous art,
- (2) there is no suggestion to combine Chung with Austin because combining them would render Austin unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, and
- (3) there is no suggestion to combine Chung with Austin from the prior art and not from Applicant's specification.